

Foreign Affairs, and in addition, to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

In order to expedite the House's consideration of the bill, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence will forego consideration of the measure. This courtesy is, however, conditioned on our mutual understanding and agreement that it will in no way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Permanent Select Committee with respect to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill or any similar measure. It is also conditioned on our mutual understanding and agreement that the Director of National Intelligence shall carry out the assessment required by Subsection 1(b) of the bill consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding and would request that you include a copy of this letter in the Congressional Record during its floor consideration. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman.

HONORING MICHAEL SEITZ FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED LEADERSHIP OF THE GREATER LA PORTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Seitz, who will retire December 8th as president of the La Porte, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Seitz has spent decades working to keep the Northern Indiana economy growing, including 15 years as the Greater La Porte Chamber president, and our community will miss his invaluable contributions.

Mr. Seitz began his path of public service while attending Indiana University, where he received an undergraduate degree in Public Administration and graduated from the United States Chamber of Commerce Institute. He furthered his commitment to economic development by attending the Certified Economic Developers program at the University of Kentucky.

After school, Mr. Seitz began a long career dedicated to the economic success of the Hoosier State. Before serving as president of the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Seitz worked for the South Bend Chamber of Commerce and in twelve years rose from manager to vice president of Existing Business Development and Membership Services at the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce. He later served as president of the Logansport Chamber of Commerce, finally joining the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce.

With this background of dedicated service, clear passion for helping Indiana, and true commitment to economic prosperity, it is not surprising that Mr. Seitz oversaw a range of advancements and improvements for La Porte's business community during his tenure. The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce has accomplished much through the work of Mr. Seitz, his staff, and Chamber and LEAF

board members. It has gone through three accreditation processes, received two four-star ratings, and most recently, a five-star rating. The five-star rating elevated the Chamber into the highest class possible and defined it as an outstanding organization and facilitator of local commerce.

Mr. Seitz's work both as president of the Chamber and in his other public service exemplifies his dedication to Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Michael Seitz upon his retirement after nearly three decades of hard work and dedication to improving the business environment of Northern Indiana. I am grateful for his public service and wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARINE
CORPS GENERAL JOHN KELLY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, reports indicate that President-elect Donald Trump plans to select former Marine Corps General John Kelly to run the Department of Homeland Security—yet another excellent appointment which will protect American families.

The Washington Times announced, "General Kelly caught the eye of Mr. Trump's top advisers with a forceful appearance before Congress in 2014 and 2015, where he said he was shocked at how easily smugglers were able to penetrate the U.S.-Mexico border, and said it represented a major hole in national security."

General Kelly embodies the highest ideals of military service. He served with distinction in the Marine Corps, rising through the ranks to run U.S. Southern Command. As Commander, he has been critical in disrupting how organized crime networks run drugs, weapons, etc., through networks in the Western Hemisphere.

As the grateful father of four sons who have all served overseas in the Global War on Terrorism, I appreciate General Kelly's dedication and leadership. I am confident in his future success.

Congratulations again to General Kelly and his entire family on this exciting new role.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR BISHOP
SPARKS

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Major Bishop Sparks, of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our nation. Major Sparks distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service from January 6, 2014 to December 15, 2016, while serving as a Legislative Liaison for the Army House Liaison Division.

Major Sparks was instrumental in developing strategic relationships with Members of Congress and their staffs throughout the 114th Congress as a Legislative Liaison to the House of Representatives. His expertise proved critical in providing requisite support for Army and DoD initiatives. Through these relationships he ensured Congressional decision makers had accurate and timely information on Army programs, policies and priorities; his hard work directly impacted future defense legislation and built upon the Army's equities.

Major Bishop Sparks is a native of West Palm Beach, Florida. Bishop enlisted in the Wisconsin Army National Guard in 2003 as the Fire Direction Specialist (13P). Bishop graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin with a degree in Justice and Public Policy and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 2006.

After completion of the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Major Sparks was assigned to the 2-2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. While assigned to 2-2nd Infantry Regiment, Major Sparks served as a Company Fire Support Officer. Major Sparks was later assigned to 1-6th Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division. While assigned to 1-6th Field Artillery, Major Sparks served as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer deploying in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM from July 2008 through July 2009.

In 2009, Major Sparks attended the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course (FACCC). After graduating the FACCC, Major Sparks was assigned to 1-12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division where he served as a Battalion Fire Support Officer and deployed in support of OPERATION NEW DAWN in January 2011. While deployed, Major Sparks assumed command of Bravo Battery, 2-82nd Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division.

Following battery command, Captain Sparks attended George Washington University earning a master's degree in Legislative Affairs and served as a Congressional Fellow for Congressman HANK JOHNSON (GA-4). Bishop currently serves as a Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison (OCLL).

Bishop's military education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Ranger School, Joint Fire Power Course, Tactical Information Officer Course, the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course, and Airborne School. Bishop also graduated from Liberty University with a master's degree in Business Management and Leadership.

Major Sparks' awards include the Bronze Star Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal Army Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Afghan Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal (Expeditionary), Global War on Terrorism Medal (Service), Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Major Sparks' professionalism and high standards of duty improved relations between the Army and the House of Representatives. Major Sparks' leadership, initiative and truly outstanding performance contributed immeasurably to maintaining the Army's enduring, positive relationship with Congress and advancing the Army's top priorities, bringing distinct credit upon him, the Office of the Chief of

Legislative Liaison, and the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major Bishop Sparks as he proceeds to the next chapter in his remarkable career and continues to serve our great Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON KNABE
OF CERRITOS

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Don Knabe of Cerritos, California who retired on December 5, 2016 after 35 years of exceptional public service, of which twenty years were spent serving as Supervisor in the 4th District of Los Angeles County. Don is a patriot who consistently put the needs of community and country first. Never shy to stand for what is right, he proudly advocated for the least fortunate and provided a space for their voices to be heard.

Hailing from the Midwest, Don is a native of Rock Island, Illinois and served in the United States Navy. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa. He was a small business owner before he answered the call of public service.

Don has been a fierce advocate for children and has done many great things for the community, including policies that supported jobs for veterans and youth. He's been a staunch national leader on anti-child sex trafficking, which is an issue Don and I worked closely together on when I was a State Senator in the California State Legislature. He also saved lives by creating the Safe Surrender program that allows parents to surrender newborns at fire stations and hospitals.

Don was also a tremendous supporter for the arts. He created several innovative youth programs, such as the Pediatric Arts Program at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, and the Arts Education Partnership Program, which provides grants to schools and community organizations to fund visual art, dance, music, and theatre programs.

As Don prepares for the next chapter in his life, the people of Los Angeles can rest assured he leaves behind an incredible legacy and foundation for our community to grow. I wish Don, his wife Julie, their two children, and four amazing grandchildren well and many more years of happiness together. I am positive Don's magnanimous influence will be felt for many decades to come.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING DIRECTOR
OF SAGINAW COUNTY 911, TOM
MCINTYRE

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Tom McIntyre, upon his retirement as the Director of Saginaw County 911 and for his many contributions to the Saginaw community.

Originally aspiring to be a teacher, Mr. McIntyre first began his work in law enforcement as a school liaison police officer in the village of Chesaning. From there Mr. McIntyre worked at the Saginaw Sheriff's Department holding a variety of positions including working in the juvenile division, serving as sergeant in charge of the marine division, jail administrator and directing the road patrol. In 1993 he was elected by the community to serve as sheriff, holding this position until 1998. Mr. McIntyre has since spent the last 18 years in his current position, as Director of Saginaw County 911. Those in the community still know him as the sheriff.

With a total of almost 50 years of service, Mr. McIntyre has demonstrated a devotion to the public safety of Saginaw County. Through his illustrious career at the Saginaw Sheriff's Department, Saginaw County 911, and as a community leader, Mr. McIntyre has positively influenced the lives of the countless community members he has selflessly served.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to extend my gratitude to Tom McIntyre for his many years of hard work and service to Saginaw County, and wish him a happy and healthful retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2016 ARTS COUNCIL OF
FAIRFAX COUNTY ARTS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Arts Council of Fairfax County and the recipients of its 2016 Arts Awards.

These awards recognize the extraordinary contributions of artists and arts organizations, as well as individuals and businesses in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church that support the arts in our community.

Founded in 1964, the Arts Council of Fairfax County is a non-profit organization designated as Fairfax County's local arts agency. The Arts Council operates programs and initiatives that include grants, arts advocacy, education, and professional development opportunities for artists and arts organizations. The Arts Council has awarded more than \$540,000 in County, public, and private funds through competitive grants and awards. These grants have helped to fund approximately 13,000 performances which have been attended by more than 1 million people.

Each year, the Arts Council of Fairfax County honors a select group of individuals, companies, or organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the local arts community. These annual awards honor supporters of the arts in four categories: the Jinx Hazel Arts Award, the Arts Impact Award, the Arts Philanthropy Award, and the Arts Education Award. It is my honor to congratulate this year's honorees.

The 2016 Jinx Hazel Arts Award is being presented to Dominion Resource Services in recognition of its tremendous support and long-term investment in the artistic and cultural vitality of communities in Fairfax County and throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Since 2011, the Dominion Foundation has provided financial support to 26 non-profit arts organizations in both Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. In addition, Dominion and its employees contribute more than 100,000 volunteer hours each year to support local festivals and community activities.

The 2016 Arts Impact Award is being presented to George Washington's Mount Vernon for its extraordinary impact on the collection and preservation of art, culture, and decorative artwork from the mid-18th century. Mount Vernon's archaeological collection includes more than 500,000 pieces and more than 700 pieces are on display today. In addition, Mount Vernon sponsors and hosts extensive visitor education programs.

The 2016 Arts Philanthropy Award is being presented to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. Since 2000, the Cooke Foundation has awarded more than \$152 million in scholarships to nearly 2,200 high-performing low-income students as well as more than \$90 million in grants to organizations that serve these students. In addition, scholarships and grants are awarded to individual students as well as community music schools, pre-conservatories, and summer music programs to help talented young students achieve their artistic dreams.

The 2016 Arts Education Award is being presented to the Fairfax Choral Society in recognition of their contributions in music education, performance, and appreciation of choral art by people of all ages. The FCS is the only organization in Northern Virginia that provides opportunities to nearly 400 choral students ranging in age from pre-school through adulthood. The repertoire of the FCS includes classical, folk, and contemporary compositions, and it has performed with the National Symphony Orchestra, the American Youth Philharmonic, as well as at Carnegie Hall and the White House.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2016 Arts Awards and in recognizing and thanking the visionaries, leaders, and supporters who help to make our Northern Virginia communities rich with cultural opportunities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 613 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 5143, the Transparent Insurance Standards Act, I am not recorded because I was detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

HONORING JOHN SARGEANT

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the Fourth District of Ohio lost a great one in August. Today I pay tribute to the life and memory of a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, veteran, business leader, and I'm proud to say a good friend: John Sargeant.